

(Revised)

MEMORANDUM

NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL

ACTION

May 3, 1973

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

MEMORANDUM FOR: DR. KISSINGER

THROUGH: BRENT SCOWCROFT

FROM: PHIL ODEEN *PO*
DAVID ELLIOTT *DE*

SUBJECT: Funding of Technical Consultants

You will recall that you approved the use by the NSC of some of the technical consultants, formerly associated with OST, for expert advice on various military problems (Tab B). We indicated we would seek your further approval on the final details.

Contrary to our original understanding that the funds and the staff position required for this function would be transferred from OST to the NSC, it now develops that no funds are available and that the entire cost, approximately \$150,000, must come from the NSC budget.

There are two alternative approaches to the funding:

- To ask OMB to approve an additional \$150,000 for the FY 74 NSC budget, requiring Congressional approval of a supplemental appropriation. (Our present FY 74 budget request on which Jeanne Davis testified to the House Appropriations Subcommittee last week is \$2,802,000, an increase of \$40,000 over FY 73).
- To seek OMB permission to use some of the \$300,000 requested for contract research in FY 74 for this activity.

OMB has indicated informally at the staff level that they would recommend against an increase in the NSC budget, although they do not rule out the possibility that an appeal from you to Roy Ash might reverse that. They would, however, view sympathetically a request for

NSS Review Completed.

ON-FILE OMB RELEASE
INSTRUCTIONS APPLY~~CONFIDENTIAL~~
GDS

Classified by David Elliott/Philip Odeer

CONFIDENTIAL

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permission to use contract funds. We recommend the latter course, given the marginal utility of the work produced under the contractual program and the fact that the arrangement could probably be negotiated without your intervention.

With regard to a supergrade position for Gordon Moe, whom you had approved in principle adding to the staff for this function, the Civil Service Commission has agreed to provide an additional non-quota (reserved for medical and scientific employees) supergrade position to the NSC so it will not be necessary to use one of the position from our present supergrade allotment.

Jeanne W. *JWD* concurs.

RECOMMENDATION:

That you approve our approach to OMB for permission to use contract research monies to fund these technical consultants.

Approve *10/2 for HAK* Disapprove _____

If you prefer to request additional funds, we have prepared a memo from you to Roy Ash at Tab A.

CONFIDENTIAL

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

MEMORANDUM FOR

Mr. Roy Ash
Director, Office of Management and Budget

SUBJECT: FY 74 NSC Budget Increase

In order to carry out that part of the President's Reorganization Plan No. 1 dealing with technical advice and assessment on military matters, I plan to use a group of consultants, formerly associated with OST, to assist us in addressing these issues on an ad hoc basis. The cost of this group depends on the number of problems we might address, but a reasonable estimate of our needs would be about \$100,000 a year, plus \$50,000 to cover the necessary NSC staff support.

Since we are unable to absorb this amount in the present proposed NSC FY 1974 budget, I would appreciate if you could take steps to augment our budget by the amount so that we can perform this important function.

Henry A. Kissinger

917X

NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL

ACTION
February 23, 1973

CONFIDENTIAL

MEMORANDUM FOR: DR. KISSINGER

FROM: PHIL ODEEN/DAVID ELLIOTT DE

SUBJECT: Transfer to the NSC Staff of a Technical
Assessment Capability for Military Systems

In light of your decision to transfer to the NSC staff some of the capability previously provided by OST for technical advice and assessment on military matters, we have developed some suggestions as to size, operation, and staffing. These suggestions are based on inputs from Jack Martin and John Baldeschwieler of OST as well as our own experience and ideas.

The expertise essential to the technical advisory function would be provided (as it was in OST) by a group of technical consultants drawn mainly from the industries and laboratories involved in the development of military systems. By judicious selection, a group of about 20 to 25 could have the breadth of backgrounds and abilities necessary to address most technical questions. The consultants as a whole would meet very infrequently, but panels of three to five members would be formed on an ad hoc basis to tackle specific questions. An NSC staff member could service the consultants. A good choice would be to add Gordon Moe to our staff. He is experienced and well thought of in DOD and among OST's technical consultants.

We see three general cases where we might ask consultant panels to address an issue.

-- As we have in the past, the staff would periodically ask a group of panelists to study some problem of particular concern, e.g., VNAF air defense capabilities, impact of missile test limits, or the shelf life of stockpiled nerve gas.

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-- On rare occasions, the President might ask you to take a detailed look at a critical military problem (e. g., the survivability of the Trident submarine or the adequacy of the B-1 bomber).

-- Finally, the consultants could serve you directly on matters such as SALT, since the Doty Group would likely be included in the consultants' panel.

The extent of such studies and the requirement would vary from case to case. But, we envisage the technical advice function as being almost entirely responsive and not an investigative body out looking for problems.

If we are to attract and hold consultants of the highest caliber, it is important that they feel plugged in. This means, if possible, they should meet with you on occasion. On the other hand, it would not be productive use of your time motivating a bunch of scientists. An acceptable commitment might be to meet with the group as a whole a couple times a year, spending half an hour outlining in general terms issues on the horizon.

As far as placing the assessment function structurally within the NSC, it could go into Program Analysis or Scientific and Technological Affairs. But our recommendation is to assign it to Dave Elliott, who could best provide close technical supervision of the consultant panel.

RECOMMENDATION

That you approve the approach outlined above. If you approve, we will work out the details with Jeanne Davis and Brent Scowcroft. When the final package is complete, we would submit it for approval.

Approve HK

See me _____

Other _____

CONFIDENTIAL

Estimate of Annual Cost to Support the NSC Military Technical Group

1. The group will be made up of 25 consultants.
2. The cost per trip (2 days work and 1 travel) per man will average \$475.

Average air travel	\$ 175
Consulting fee	200
Per diem	75
Miscellaneous	25
	<u>\$ 475</u>

3. The group will meet semiannually as a whole.

Cost $25 \times 2 \times \$475 = \$23,750$

4. We will address one major issue per year, requiring six trips by ten consultants.

Cost \$28,500

5. We will address four medium-level problems per year, each requiring four trips by seven consultants.

Cost \$53,200

6. One NSC staff member (Gordon Moe) and one secretary to service the group.

Cost \$45,000

7. Grand total \$150,450
(Total w/o NSC staff cost \$105,450)

MEMORANDUM

NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL

CONFIDENTIAL

April 18, 1973

MEMORANDUM FOR: MR. KISSINGER

THROUGH: GENERAL SCOWCROFT

FROM: PHIL ODEEN *PO*
DAVID ELLIOTT *D.E.*

SUBJECT: Funding of Technical Consultants

You will recall that you approved the use by the NSC of some of the technical consultants, formerly associated with OST, for expert advice on various military problems (Tab B). We indicated we would seek your further approval on the final details.

Contrary to our original understanding that the funds and the staff position required for this function would be transferred from OST to the NSC, it now develops that no funds are available and that the entire cost, approximately \$150,000, must come from the NSC budget. Also, the GS-16 position occupied by Gordon Moe, whom you had approved in principle adding to the staff for this function, must now come from the NSC supergrade allotment.

There are two alternative approaches to the funding:

- to ask OMB to approve an additional \$150,000 for the FY 74 NSC budget, requiring Congressional approval of a supplemental appropriation; (our present FY 74 budget request on which Jeanne Davis testified to the House Appropriations Subcommittee last week, is \$2,802,000, an increase of \$40,000 over FY 73).
- to seek OMB permission to use some of the \$300,000 requested for contract research in FY 74 for this activity.

OMB has indicated informally at the staff level that they would recommend against an increase in the NSC budget, although they do not rule out the possibility that an appeal from you to Roy Ash might reverse that. They would, however, view sympathetically a request for permission to use contract funds. We recommend the latter course, given the marginal utility of the work produced under the contractual program and the fact that the arrangement could probably be negotiated with OMB without your intervention.

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On the addition of another supergrade position for Gordon Moe, we can arrange some trade-offs within our supergrade allotment provided the Civil Service Commission grants our request both for restoration of the supergrades they took from us at the time of the hiring freeze and for the three additional supergrades. You signed a letter to CSC Chairman Bob Hampton on this on March 29, 1973.

If CSC does not grant our request, the only solution would be to persuade another agency -- possibly CIA -- to put Moe on their payroll and detail him to the NSC staff. We would like your permission to approach CIA or other agencies with this in mind if it should become necessary.

Jeanne W. Davis concurs.

RECOMMENDATION:

1. That you approve an approach to OMB for permission to use contract research monies to fund these technical consultants.

APPROVE _____

If you prefer to request additional funds, we have prepared a memo from you to Roy Ash at Tab A.

2. That you authorize a request to CIA or another agency should it become necessary, to hire Gordon Moe and detail him to the NSC for this activity.

APPROVE _____ DISAPPROVE _____

CONFIDENTIAL/GDS

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

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RECOMMENDATION

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Approve HK

See me _____

Other _____

CONFIDENTIAL